

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| In re Application of: |) | |
| |) | |
| Kristopher BUCHANAN |) | Group Art Unit: 1651 |
| |) | |
| Serial No.: 10/539,562 |) | Examiner: Allison M. FORD |
| |) | |
| Filed: June 17, 2005 |) | |
| |) | Confirmation No.: 2677 |
| For: SYSTEMS AND METHODS OF |) | |
| SAMPLE PROCESSING AND |) | |
| TEMPERATURE CONTROL |) | |

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

In a restriction requirement dated September 13, 2007, the Examiner required restriction under 35 U.S.C. § 121 between Group I, Claims 1-11, 30, 31 and 37-46 drawn to a method of automated sample processing, comprising active steps of regulating the temperature of a sample, Group II, Claims 12-29, 32-36 and 47, drawn to a method of automated sample processing, comprising active steps of regulating the temperature of reagents to be added/applied to the sample, and Group III, Claims 75 and 90-113, drawn to an automated sample processing system.

Applicants provisionally elect to prosecute Group III, Claims 75 and 90-113, drawn to an automated sample processing system.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: December 12, 2007

By: 

Anthony C. Tridico

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